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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

James A. RUSSELL *et al.*

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

Application No.: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: August __, 2006

Examiner: Unassigned

For: TOLL-LIKE RECEPTOR 2 (TLR-2) HAPLOTYPES
PREDICT OUTCOME OF PATIENTS

Customer No.: 30827

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks are on page 10 of this paper.

An **Appendix** with "clean" claims is provided (as pages 11-16).